

# JOHN CHIANG California State Controller

May 8, 2013

Joseph Allison, Director, Fiscal Services Merced Community College District 3600 M Street Merced, CA 95348

Dear Mr. Allison:

The State Controller's Office reviewed the costs claimed by the Merced Community College District for the legislatively mandated Enrollment Fee Collection and Waivers Program (Education Code section 76300, and *California Code of Regulations*, Title 5, sections 58501-58503, 58611-58613, 58620, and 58630) for the period of July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2011. Our review was limited to verifying indirect costs and validating eligible offsetting reimbursements the district received from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office for enrollment fee collection and waivers offsets.

The district claimed \$581,450 for the mandated program. Our review found that \$211,577 is allowable and \$369,873 is unallowable. The costs are unallowable because the district understated indirect costs and misstated offsetting reimbursements, as described in the attached Summary of Program Costs and Findings and Recommendations.

For the fiscal year (FY) 2000-01 claim through the FY 2007-08 claim, the State made no payment to the district. Our review found that \$134,154 is allowable. The State will pay that amount, contingent upon available appropriations.

For the FY 2008-09 claim, the State paid the district \$4,438. Our review found that \$28,826 is allowable. The State will pay allowable costs claimed that exceed the amount paid, totaling \$24,388, contingent upon available appropriations.

For the FY 2009-10 claim, the State paid the district \$6,259. Our review found that \$29,412 is allowable. The State will pay allowable costs claimed that exceed the amount paid, totaling \$23,153, contingent upon available appropriations.

For the FY 2010-11 claim, the State made no payment to the district. Our review found that \$19,185 is allowable. The State will pay that amount, contingent upon available appropriations.

If you disagree with the review findings, you may file an Incorrect Reduction Claim (IRC) with the Commission on State Mandates (CSM). The IRC must be filed within three years following the date that we notify you of a claim reduction. You may obtain IRC information at the CSM's website at www.csm.ca.gov/docs/IRCForm.pdf.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim L. Spano, Chief, Mandated Cost Audits Bureau, at (916) 323-5849.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

JEFFREY V. BROWNFIELD, CPA Chief, Division of Audits

JVB/nh

Attachments

RE: S13-MCC-910

cc: Christine Atalig, Specialist, College Finance and Facilities Planning
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
Ed Hanson, Principal Program Budget Analyst
Education Systems Unit, California Department of Finance
Mario Rodriguez, Finance Budget Analyst
Education Systems Unit, California Department of Finance
Jay Lal, Manager
Division of Accounting and Reporting
State Controller's Office

### Attachment 1— Summary of Program Costs July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2011

Cost Elements	Actual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2001				
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$ 21,684	\$ 21,684	\$ <u> </u>	
Total direct costs Indirect costs	21,684 2,172	21,684 3,113	 941	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection <sup>2</sup>	23,856	24,797	941	Einding 2
	(19,336)	(14,653)	4,683	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection	4,520	10,144	5,624	
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	29,986 234	29,986 234		
Total direct costs Indirect costs	30,220 3,028	30,220 4,340	1,312	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers	33,248	34,560 (85,885)	1,312 (85,885)	Finding 2
Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>	22.249	51,325	51,325	
Total enrollment fee waivers	33,248	10 144	(33,248)	
Total program costs  Less amount paid by the State	\$ 37,768	10,144	\$ (27,624)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	amount paid	\$ 10,144		
July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2002				
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$ 25,898	\$ 25,898	\$ —	
Total direct costs Indirect costs	25,898 3,104	25,898 3,304	200	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements:	29,002	29,202	200	
Enrollment fee collection <sup>2</sup>	(14,533)	(14,725)	(192)	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection	14,469	14,477	8	

Cost Elements		ctual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	A	Review djustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO		33,233 239	33,233 239		_ 	
Total direct costs Indirect costs		33,472 4,014	33,472 4,271			Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		37,486	37,743 (87,688 49,945	)	257 (87,688) 49,945	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers		37,486		_	(37,486)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$	51,955	14,477	\$	(37,478)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than)	amoı	ınt paid	\$ 14,477	_		
July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2003		-		=		
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$	33,53	\$ 33,531	\$	_	
Total direct costs Indirect costs		33,531 3,591	33,531 4,62		1,036	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection <sup>2</sup>		37,122	38,158		1,036 3,652	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection	_	(22,648) 14,474	19,162		4,688	Tillullig 2
Enrollment fee waivers:		17,77	17,102		4,000	
Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	\$	57,44 244	57,443 244			
Total direct costs Indirect costs		57,687 6,178	57,687 7,961		1,783	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs		63,865	65,648		1,783	
Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		<u> </u>	(88,186 22,538		(88,186) 22,538	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers		63,865		_	(63,865)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$	78,339	19,162	\$	(59,177)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than)	\$ 19,162	_				

Cost Elements		ctual Costs Claimed	Allowable er Review	 Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004					
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$	35,708	\$ 35,708	\$ 	
Total direct costs Indirect costs		35,708 3,099	 35,708 4,996	  1,897	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection <sup>2</sup>		38,807 (32,967)	40,704 (29,221)	1,897 3,746	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection		5,840	11,483	 5,643	rinding 2
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	\$	60,847 244	60,847 244		
Total direct costs Indirect costs		61,091 5,303	 61,091 8,546	3,243	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		66,394	69,637 (108,685) 39,048	3,243 (108,685) 39,048	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers		66,394		 (66,394)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$	72,234	 11,483	\$ (60,751)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	ımou	nt paid	\$ 11,483		
July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005					
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$	39,304	\$ 39,304	\$ 	
Total direct costs Indirect costs		39,304 5,066	 39,304 13,572	8,506	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements:		44,370	52,876	8,506	
Enrollment fee collection <sup>2</sup>		(44,370)	 (39,957)	 4,413	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection			 12,919	 12,919	

Cost Elements	Actual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	71,530 310	71,530 310		
Total direct costs Indirect costs	71,840 9,260	71,840 24,806	15,546	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection <sup>2</sup> Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>	81,100 (7,562)	96,646 (132,773) 36,127	15,546 (125,211) 36,127	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers	73,538		(73,538)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$ 73,538	12,919	\$ (60,619)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	amount paid	\$ 12,919		
July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006				
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$ 43,161	\$ 43,161	\$ —	
Total direct costs Indirect costs	43,161 5,821	43,161 15,222	9,401	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection	48,982	58,383	9,401	Einding 2
Total enrollment fee collection <sup>4</sup>	(50,586) (1,604)	24,339	16,542 25,943	Finding 2
Enrollment fee waivers:	(1,004)		25,745	
Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	75,726 310	75,726 310		
Total direct costs Indirect costs	76,036 10,257	76,036 26,818	 16,561	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs	86,293	102,854	16,561	
Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>	(1,346)	(123,219) 20,365	(121,873) 20,365	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers	84,947		(84,947)	
Total program costs	\$ 83,343	24,339	\$ (59,004)	
Less amount paid by the State Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than)	amount paid	\$ 24,339		

Cost Elements		ctual Costs Claimed	Allowable er Review		Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007						
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Staff Training Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$	1,101 40,566	\$ 1,101 40,566	\$	_ _	
Total direct costs Indirect costs		41,667 6,041	 41,667 15,028	_	— 8,987	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection		47,708 (55,958)	56,695 (35,286)		8,987 20,672	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection <sup>4</sup>		(8,250)	 21,409		29,659	Tillding 2
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO		80,416 936	80,416 936			
Total direct costs Indirect costs		81,352 11,796	 81,352 29,344		17,548	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		93,148	110,696 (135,460) 24,764		17,548 (135,460) 24,764	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers		93,148			(93,148)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$	84,898	21,409	\$	(63,489)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	amou	ınt paid	\$ 21,409			
July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008						
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$	22,632	\$ 22,632	\$		
Total direct costs Indirect costs		22,632 6,884	 22,632 9,348		<u> </u>	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		29,516 (43,127)	31,980 (34,536) 2,556		2,464 8,591 2,556	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection <sup>4</sup>		(13,611)	2,330		13,611	

Cost Elements		ual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	A	Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO		102,311 1,088	102,311 1,088			
Total direct costs Indirect costs		103,399 31,454	103,399 42,714		11,260	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		134,853 (99,290)	146,113 (125,892		11,260 (26,602)	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers		35,563	20,221		(15,342)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$	21,952	20,221	<u>\$</u>	(1,731)	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	amour	nt paid	\$ 20,221	_		
July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009				<del></del>		
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$	68,912	\$ 68,912	\$		
Total direct costs Indirect costs		68,912 25,319	68,912 30,977		<u> </u>	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection		94,231 (43,166)	99,889		5,658 10,287	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection		51,065	67,010		15,945	
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO		68,931 1,129	68,931 1,129			
Total direct costs Indirect costs		70,060 25,740	70,060 31,491		 5,751	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements:		95,800	101,551		5,751	
Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>		118,039)	(126,284 24,733		(8,245) 24,733	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers <sup>5</sup>		(22,239)		<u> </u>	22,239	
Subtotal Less allowable costs that exceed costs claimed <sup>6</sup>		28,826	67,010 (38,184		38,184 (38,184)	
Total program costs	\$	28,826	28,826			
Less amount paid by the State			(4,438	)		
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	amour	nt paid	\$ 24,388	_		

Cost Elements	Actual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	Review Adjustment	Reference 1
July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010				
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$ 72,581	\$ 72,581	\$	
Total direct costs Indirect costs	72,581 27,197	72,581 34,266	7,069	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements:	99,778	106,847	7,069	Einding 2
Enrollment fee collection	(46,747)	(36,811)	9,936	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection	53,031	70,036	17,005	
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	78,922 1,184	78,922 1,184		
Total direct costs Indirect costs	80,106 30,016	80,106 37,818	7,802	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>	110,122 (133,741)	117,924 (139,609) 21,685	7,802 (5,868) 21,685	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers <sup>5</sup>	(23,619)	_	23,619	
Subtotal Less allowable costs that exceed costs claimed <sup>6</sup>	29,412	70,036 (40,624)	40,624 (40,624)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$ 29,412	29,412 (6,259)	<u>\$</u>	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) as	mount paid	\$ 23,153		
July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011				
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Calculating and collecting enrollment fees Total direct costs Indirect costs	\$ 73,631 73,631 28,452	\$ 73,631 73,631 35,808	\$ — 7,356	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements:	102,083	109,439	7,356	Eindin = 2
Enrollment fee collection	(64,848)	(32,436)	32,412	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee collection	37,235	77,003	39,768	

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Cost Elements	Actual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	98,774 1,268	98,774 1,268		
Total direct costs Indirect costs	100,042 38,656	100,042 48,651	9,995	Finding 1
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets <sup>3</sup>	138,698 (156,748)	148,693 (162,849) 14,156	9,995 (6,101) 14,156	Finding 2
Total enrollment fee waivers <sup>5</sup> Subtotal Less allowable costs that exceed costs claimed <sup>6</sup>	(18,050) 19,185 —	77,003 (57,818)	18,050 57,818 (57,818)	
Total program costs Less amount paid by the State	\$ 19,185	19,185	\$	
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	mount paid	\$ 19,185		
Summary: July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2011				
Enrollment fee collection: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Staff Training Calculating and collecting enrollment fees	\$ 1,101 477,608	\$ 1,101 477,608	\$ <u> </u>	
Total direct costs Indirect costs	478,709 116,746	478,709 170,261	53,515	
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements: Enrollment fee collection Adjustment for unused portion of offsets	595,455 (438,286)	648,970 (323,544) 2,556	53,515 114,742 2,556	
Total enrollment fee collection	157,169	327,982	170,813	
Enrollment fee waivers: Direct costs - salaries and benefits Waiving student fees Reporting BOGG fee waiver data to CCCCO	758,119 7,186	758,119 7,186		
Total direct costs Indirect costs	765,305 175,702	765,305 266,760	91,058	

Cost Elements	Actual Costs Claimed	Allowable Per Review	Review Adjustment	Reference <sup>1</sup>
Total direct and indirect costs Less offsetting savings and reimbursements:	941,007	1,032,065	91,058	
Enrollment fee waivers Adjustment for unused portion of offsets	(516,726)	(1,316,530) 304,686	(799,804) 304,686	
Total enrollment fee waivers	424,281	20,221	(404,060)	
Subtotal Less allowable costs that exceed costs claimed	581,450 —	348,203 (136,626)	(233,247) (136,626)	
Total program costs	\$ 581,450	211,577	\$ (369,873)	
Less amount paid by the State		(10,697)		
Allowable costs claimed in excess of (less than) a	mount paid	\$ 200,880		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Attachment 2, Findings and Recommendations section.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For FY 2000-01, through FY 2004-05, the district applied offsetting reimbursements totaling \$141,416 against total direct and indirect costs claimed (\$19,336 in FY 2000-01, \$14,533 in FY 2001-02, \$22,648 in 2002-03, \$32,967 in FY 2003-04, and \$51,932 in FY 2004-05). The district did not identify what portions of the offsets were applicable to enrollment fee collection or enrollment fee waivers activities. We applied the total offsets claimed to enrollment fee collection and enrollment fee waivers as applicable. For FY 2004-05, we limited the enrolment fee collection offset to total direct and indirect costs. Therefore, we applied \$44,370 as an offset to enrollment fee collection and \$7,562 as an offset to enrollment fee waivers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Allowable offsetting savings and reimbursements are limited to total direct and indirect costs and are calculated separately for enrollment fee collection costs and enrollment fee waivers costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For FY 2005-06, through FY 2007-08, offsetting reimbursements claimed by the district for enrollment fee collection costs exceeded the claimed direct and indirect costs by \$23,465 (\$1,604 for FY 2005-06, \$8,250 for FY 2006-07, and \$13,611 for FY 2007-08).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For FY 2008-09, through FY 2010-11, offsetting reimbursements claimed by the district for enrollment fee waivers costs exceeded the claimed direct and indirect costs by \$63,908 (\$22,239 for FY 2008-09, \$23,619 for FY 2009-10, and \$18,050 for FY 2010-11).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Government Code section 17568 states that the State will not reimburse any claim more than one year after the filing deadline specified in the SCO's claiming instructions. That deadline has passed for FY 2008-09 through FY 2010-11.

### Attachment 2— Findings and Recommendations July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2011

### FINDING—1 Understated indirect costs

The district claimed indirect costs during the review period totaling \$292,448 (\$116,746 for enrollment fee collection activities and \$175,702 for enrollment fee waivers activities). For enrollment fee collection activities, we determined that \$170,261 is allowable. For enrollment fee waivers activities, we determined that \$266,760 is allowable. The costs are understated by \$144,573 (\$53,515 for enrollment fee collection activities and by \$91,058 for enrollment fee waiver activities) because of indirect cost rate calculation errors in each year of the review period.

#### **Indirect Cost Rates Claimed**

For the review period, the district claimed indirect costs based on indirect cost rates that it prepared using the SCO's FAM-29C methodology. For all years of the review period, we noted numerous errors in the calculation of the indirect cost rates that the district claimed.

The district made several calculation errors throughout the review period. We summarized the common errors noted:

- The district incorrectly misclassified indirect and direct costs.
- The district did not properly classify object code 6500, Operation and Maintenance of Plant. The district classified costs in this object code, excluding operating expenses, as a direct cost. The SCO instructions indicate that 7% is indirect prior to FY 2003-04 and 100% indirect for FY 2004-05 and subsequent fiscal years.
- The district did not properly classify object code 6710, Community Relations. The district classified costs in this object code, excluding operating expenses, as an indirect cost for FY 2001-02 through FY 2003-04. The SCO instructions indicate that this is an allowable direct cost.
- For FY 2004-05 through FY 2006-07, the district omitted operating expenses from the indirect cost rate pool.
- For FY 2003-04, the numbers reflected in the district's Annual Budget and Financial Report (CCFS 311) did not match the numbers in the district's calculation of its indirect cost rate, nor did they match the numbers from the prior year CCFS 311.
- For FY 2007-08, the district calculated its indirect cost rate using total direct costs as the base. However, the SCO claiming instructions state that the indirect cost rate must be calculated using salaries and benefits as the base.

 For FY 2004-05 through FY 2010-11, the district did not include depreciation expense in its calculations. The SCO claiming instructions indicate that the indirect cost computation includes any depreciation or use allowance applicable to district buildings and equipment. We obtained this information from the notes to the district's annual financial statements.

#### **Indirect Cost Rates Allowable**

For the review period, we recalculated indirect costs using the SCO's FAM-29C methodology. We calculated the allowable indirect cost rates each year by using the financial information contained in the CCFS-311 and depreciation amounts from the district's annual financial statements only for FY 2004-05 through FY 2010-11. Our calculations show that the district understated its indirect cost rates for the entire period.

The following table summarizes the claimed, allowable, and review adjustments for indirect cost rates:

			Review
Fiscal Year	Claimed	Allowable	Adjustment
2000-01	10.02%	14.36%	4.34%
2001-02	11.99%	12.76%	0.77%
2002-03	10.71%	13.80%	3.09%
2003-04	8.68%	13.99%	5.31%
2004-05	12.89%	34.53%	21.64%
2005-06	13.49%	35.27%	21.78%
2006-07	14.50%	36.07%	21.57%
2007-08	30.42%	41.31%	10.89%
2008-09	36.74%	44.95%	8.21%
2009-10	37.47%	47.21%	9.74%
2010-11	38.64%	48.63%	9.99%

#### **Enrollment Fee Collection**

The district claimed \$116,746 for indirect costs during the review period, related to salaries and benefits claimed for enrollment fee collection activities for FY 2000-01 through FY 2010-11. We determined that \$170,261 is allowable. The costs are understated by \$53,515 because of indirect cost rate calculation errors in each year of the review period described above.

The following table summarizes the claimed, allowable, and review adjustment amounts for indirect costs related to enrollment fee collection by fiscal year:

		Enro	ollment Fee Collection							
	Claimed	Allowable								
Fiscal	Indirect	Indirect	Claimed		Allowable		Claimed Alle		F	Review
Year	Cost Rates	Cost Rates	Costs		Costs		Costs		Ad	justment
2000-01	10.02%	14.36%	\$	2,172	\$	3,113	\$	941		
2001-02	11.99%	12.76%		3,104		3,304		200		
2002-03	10.71%	13.80%		3,591		4,627		1,036		
2003-04	8.68%	13.99%		3,099		4,996		1,897		
2004-05	12.89%	34.53%		5,066		13,572		8,506		
2005-06	13.49%	35.27%		5,821		15,222		9,401		
2006-07	14.50%	36.07%		6,041		15,028		8,987		
2007-08	30.42%	41.31%		6,884		9,348		2,464		
2008-09	36.74%	44.95%		25,319		30,977		5,658		
2009-10	37.47%	47.21%		27,197		34,266		7,069		
2010-11	38.64%	48.63%		28,452		35,808		7,356		
			\$	116,746	\$ 1	70,261	\$	53,515		

#### **Enrollment Fee Waivers**

The district claimed \$175,702 for indirect costs during the review period related to salaries and benefits claimed for enrollment fee waivers activities for FY 2000-01 through FY 2010-11. For enrollment fee waiver activities, we determined that \$266,760 is allowable. The costs are understated by \$91,058 because of indirect cost rate calculation errors in each year of the review period described above.

The following table summarizes the claimed, allowable, and review adjustment amounts for indirect costs related to enrollment fee waivers by fiscal year:

		Enrollment Fee Waivers							
	Claimed	Allowable							
Fiscal	Indirect	Indirect	Claimed	Allowable	Review				
Year	Cost Rates	Cost Rates	Costs	Costs	Adjustment				
2000-01	10.02%	14.36%	\$ 3,028	\$ 4,340	\$ 1,312				
2001-02	11.99%	12.76%	4,014	4,271	257				
2002-03	10.71%	13.80%	6,178	7,961	1,783				
2003-04	8.68%	13.99%	5,303	8,546	3,243				
2004-05	12.89%	34.53%	9,260	24,806	15,546				
2005-06	13.49%	35.27%	10,257	26,818	16,561				
2006-07	14.50%	36.07%	11,796	29,344	17,548				
2007-08	30.42%	41.31%	31,454	42,714	11,260				
2008-09	36.74%	44.95%	25,740	31,491	5,751				
2009-10	37.47%	47.21%	30,016	37,818	7,802				
2010-11	38.64%	48.63%	38,656	48,651	9,995				
			\$ 175,702	\$ 266,760	\$ 91,058				

On April 24, 2003, the Commission on State Mandates (CSM) adopted the statement of decision for the Enrollment Fee Collection and Waivers Program. The CSM determined that the test claim legislation imposed upon school districts a state mandate reimbursable under Government Code section 17561.

The parameters and guidelines establish the state mandate and define reimbursement criteria. The CSM adopted the parameters and guidelines on January 26, 2006. In compliance with Government Code section 17558, the SCO issued claiming instructions to assist community college districts in claiming mandated program reimbursable costs.

The parameters and guidelines (section V.B.-Claim Preparation and Submission-Indirect Costs) state that:

Indirect costs are costs that have been incurred for common or joint purposes. Community colleges have the option of using: (1) a federally approved rate, utilizing the cost accounting principles from the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21, "Cost Principles of Education Institutions"; (2) the rate calculated on State Controller's Form FAM-29C; or (3) a 7% indirect cost rate.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that the district ensure that claimed costs include only eligible costs, are based on actual costs, and are properly supported.

### FINDING 2— Misstated offsetting reimbursements

The district claimed offsetting reimbursements totaling \$955,012 (\$438,286 for enrollment fee collection and \$516,726 for enrollment fee waivers). We determined that offsetting reimbursements were overstated by \$117,298 for enrollment fee collection and understated by \$495,118 for enrollment fee waivers. The offsetting reimbursements were misstated because the district did not report the correct amounts that it received from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) for enrollment fee collection or enrollment fee waivers in any fiscal year of the review period.

In its claims for fiscal year (FY) 2000-01 through FY 2004-05, the district applied offsetting reimbursements of \$141,416 against total direct and indirect costs claimed. The district did not identify what portions were applicable to enrollment fee collection or enrollment fee waivers. Therefore, we applied \$133,854 of the offsets claimed to enrollment fee collection activities and \$7,562 to enrollment fee waiver activities. For FY 2004-05, we limited the enrollment fee collection offset to total direct and indirect costs. Therefore, we applied \$44,370 as an offset to the enrollment fee collection and \$7,562 as an offset to the enrollment fee waivers.

#### **Enrollment Fee Collection**

As noted above, the district claimed \$141,416 in offsetting reimbursements for FY 2000-01 through FY 2004-05; we classified \$133,854 as enrollment fee collection. In addition, the district claimed \$304,432 in enrollment fee collection for FY 2005-06 through FY 2010-11 related to the offset of two percent of revenues from enrollment fees.

We obtained a report from the CCCCO confirming enrollment fee collection offsets paid to the district totaling \$323,544 for the review period. We limited offsetting reimbursements received by the district to allowable direct and indirect enrollment fee collection costs. Allowable direct and indirect enrollment fee collection costs applicable for the review period totaled \$648,970. The district overstated offsetting reimbursements by \$117,298, consisting of offsets applicable to the review period of \$320,988 less offsets claimed of \$438,286.

The following table summarizes the overstated enrollment fee collection offsetting reimbursements by fiscal year:

	Enrollment Fee Collection Offsets									
	Allowable			Actual Offsets						
	Di	rect and			Cor	nfirmed by		Offset	R	Review
Fiscal	Indirect		Offsets		the CCCCO		Applicable to		Adjustment	
Year	Costs (A)		Claimed (B)		(C)		Review (D)		(E)=(D-B)	
2000-01	\$	24,797	\$	(19,336) 1	\$	(14,653)	\$	(14,653)	\$	4,683
2001-02		29,202		(14,533) 1		(14,725)		(14,725)		(192)
2002-03		38,158		$(22,648)^{-1}$		(18,996)		(18,996)		3,652
2003-04		40,704		$(32,967)^{-1}$		(29,221)		(29,221)		3,746
2004-05		52,876		(44,370) 1		(39,957)		(39,957)		4,413
2005-06		58,383		(50,586)		(34,044)		(34,044)		16,542
2006-07		56,695		(55,958)		(35,286)		(35,286)		20,672
2007-08		31,980		(43,127)		(34,536)		(31,980)		11,147
2008-09		99,889		(43,166)		(32,879)		(32,879)		10,287
2009-10		106,847		(46,747)		(36,811)		(36,811)		9,936
2010-11		109,439		(64,848)		(32,436)		(32,436)		32,412
	\$	648,970	\$	(438,286)	\$	(323,544)	\$	(320,988)	\$	117,298

For FY 2000-01 through FY 2004-05, the district applied offsetting reimbursements totaling \$141,416 against total direct and indirect costs claimed. The district did not identify what portion of the offset was applicable to the enrollment fee collection and what portion was applicable to the enrollment fee waivers. We applied \$133,854 of the offsets claimed to enrollment fee collection activities.

After applying offsetting reimbursements to allowable direct and related indirect enrollment fee collection costs, the unused portion of offsetting reimbursements total \$2,556 as follows:

Fiscal Year	Actual Offsets Confirmed by the CCCCO (A)		Ap	Offsets oplicable to eview (B)	Unused Portion of Offsets (A-B)		
2000-01	\$	(14,653)	\$	(14,653)	\$		
2001-02		(14,725)		(14,725)		-	
2002-03		(18,996)		(18,996)		-	
2003-04		(29,221)		(29,221)		-	
2004-05		(39,957)		(39,957)		-	
2005-06		(34,044)		(34,044)		-	
2006-07		(35,286)		(35,286)		-	
2007-08		(34,536)		(31,980)		(2,556)	
2008-09		(32,879)		(32,879)		-	
2009-10		(36,811)		(36,811)		-	
2010-11		(32,436)		(32,436)			
Total	\$	(323,544)	\$	(320,988)	\$	(2,556)	

#### **Enrollment Fee Waivers**

As noted above, the district claimed \$141,416 in offsetting reimbursements for FY 2000-01 through FY 2004-05; we classified \$7,562 as enrollment fee waivers. The district did not claim any offsetting reimbursements for FY 2006-07. The district did claim \$509,164 in offsetting reimbursements for FY 2005-06, and FY 2007-08 through FY 2010-11. For enrollment fee waivers, we also limited offsetting reimbursements received by the district to allowable direct and indirect costs. We obtained a report from the CCCCO confirming enrollment fee waivers offsets paid to the district totaling \$1,316,530 for the review period. Allowable direct and indirect enrollment fee waivers costs applicable for the review period totaled \$1,032,065. The district understated offsetting reimbursements by \$495,118, consisting of offsets applicable to the review period of \$1,011,844 less offsets claimed of \$516,726.

The following table summarizes the understated enrollment fee waiver offsetting reimbursements by fiscal year:

Enrollment Fee Waivers Offsets

Allowable Actual Offsets									
							Review		
Direct and		Offsets		Confirmed by		Offset			
Fiscal	Indirect		u	the CCCCO		Applicable to		Adjustment	
Year	Costs (A)	Claimed (B)		(C)		Review (D)		$\underline{\hspace{1cm}(E)=(D-B)}$	
2000-01	\$ 34,560	\$ -	\$	(85,885)	\$	(34,560)	\$	(34,560)	
2001-02	37,743	-		(87,688)		(37,743)		(37,743)	
2002-03	65,648	-		(88,186)		(65,648)		(65,648)	
2003-04	69,637	-		(108,685)		(69,637)		(69,637)	
2004-05	96,646	(7,562)	2	(132,773)		(96,646)		(89,084)	
2005-06	102,854	(1,346)		(123,219)		(102,854)		(101,508)	
2006-07	110,696	-		(135,460)		(110,696)		(110,696)	
2007-08	146,113	(99,290)		(125,892)		(125,892)		(26,602)	
2008-09	101,551	(118,039)		(126,284)		(101,551)		16,488	
2009-10	117,924	(133,741)		(139,609)		(117,924)		15,817	
2010-11	148,693	(156,748)		(162,849)		(148,693)		8,055	
	\$ 1,032,065	\$ (516,726)	\$	(1,316,530)	\$	(1,011,844)	\$	(495,118)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For FY 2000-01 through FY 2004-05, the district applied offsetting reimbursements totaling \$141,416 against total direct and indirect costs claimed. The district did not identify what portion of the offset was applicable to the enrollment fee collection and what portion was applicable to the enrollment fee waivers. We applied \$7,562 of the offsets claimed to the enrollment fee waivers.

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After applying offsetting reimbursements to allowable direct and related indirect enrollment fee waivers costs, the unused portion of offsetting reimbursements totals \$304,686 as follows:

	Actual Offsets	Offsets			
Fiscal	Confirmed by	Applicable to	Unused Portion		
Year	the CCCCO (A)	Review (B)	of Offsets (A-B)		
2000-01	\$ (85,885)	\$ (34,560)	\$ (51,325)		
2001-02	(87,688)	(37,743)	(49,945)		
2002-03	(88,186)	(65,648)	(22,538)		
2003-04	(108,685)	(69,637)	(39,048)		
2004-05	(132,773)	(96,646)	(36,127)		
2005-06	(123,219)	(102,854)	(20,365)		
2006-07	(135,460)	(110,696)	(24,764)		
2007-08	(125,892)	(125,892)	-		
2008-09	(126,284)	(101,551)	(24,733)		
2009-10	(139,609)	(117,924)	(21,685)		
2010-11	(162,849)	(148,693)	(14,156)		
Total	\$ (1,316,530)	\$ (1,011,844)	\$ (304,686)		

The parameters and guidelines (section VII-Offsetting Savings and Reimbursements) state:

Any offsetting savings the claimant experiences in the same program as a result of the same statutes or executive orders found to contain the mandate shall be deducted from the costs claimed. In addition, reimbursement for this mandate from any source, including, but not limited to services fees collected, federal funds, and other state funds, shall be identified and deducted from this claim.

#### **Enrollment Fee Collection Program:**

The cost of the Enrollment Fee Collection program are subject to an offset of two percent (2%) of the revenue from enrollment fees (Ed. Code, 76000, subd.(c))

#### Enrollment Fee Waiver Program:

The costs of the Enrollment Fee Waiver program are subject to the following offsets:

#### July 1, 1999 to July 4, 2000:

- For low income students<sup>2</sup> or recipients of public assistance<sup>3</sup>, or dependents or surviving spouses of National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty<sup>4</sup> as defined:
  - o an offset identified in Education Code section 76300, subdivision (m), that requires the community college Board of Governors, from funds in the annual budget act, to allocated to community college two percent (2%) of the fees waived, under subdivision (g) [low income students, as defined, or specified recipient of public assistance] and (h) [dependents or surviving spouses of California National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty, as defined] of section 76300; and

- For determination of financial need and delivery of student financial aid services, on the basis of the number of low income students (as defined) or recipients of public assistance (as defined), or dependents or surviving spouses of National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty, for whom fees are waived:
  - o from funds provided in the annual State Budget Act, the board of governors shall allocate to community college districts, pursuant to this subdivision, an amount equal to seven (7%) of the fee waivers provided, pursuant to subdivisions (g) [low income students, as defined, or specified recipients of public assistance] and 9h0 [dependents or surviving spouses of California National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty, as defined]. <sup>5</sup>

#### Beginning July 5, 2000:

- For low-income students (as defined), or recipient of public assistance (as defined) or dependent or surviving spouses of National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty, for whom fees are waived (as defined):
  - an offset identified in Education Code section 76300, subdivision (m), that requires the Community College Board of Governors, from funds in the annual budget act, to allocate to community colleges two (2%) of the fees waived, under subdivisions (g) [low income students, as defined, or specified recipients of public assistance] and (h) [dependents of California National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty as defined] of section 76300;
- For determination of financial need and delivery of student financial aid services, on the basis of the number of low income students (as defined) or recipients of public assistance (as defined) for whom fees are waived:
  - o requires the Board of Governors to allocate from funds in the annual State Budget Act ninety-one cents (\$0.91) per credit unit waived pursuant to subdivisions (g) [low income students, as defined, or specified recipient of public assistance] and (h) [dependents or California National Guard soldiers killed in the line of duty as defined].
- Any budget augmentation received under the Board Financial Assistance Program Administrative Allowance, or any other state budget augmentation received for administering the fee waiver program.

Note – Footnotes 2 through 5 are included in the parameters and guidelines to provide additional clarification.

#### Recommendation

We recommended that the district report the applicable offsetting reimbursements for the Enrollment Fee Collection and Waivers Program on its mandated cost claims based on information provided by the CCCCO.